What is claimed is:

1. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells before the application of the display pulse;

selecting one display pulse waveform that corresponds to the detection result of the display ratio among plural types of display pulse waveforms in accordance with a predetermined relationship between a display ratio and the plural types of display pulse waveforms; and

applying a display pulse having the selected display pulse waveform to all cells after that, so as to generate discharge only in the cells to be lighted.

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2. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for
each of the plural subframes;

30 selecting one display pulse waveform that

corresponds to the detection result of the display ratio among plural types of display pulse waveforms for each subframe in accordance with a predetermined relationship between a display ratio and the plural types of display pulse waveforms; and

applying a display pulse having the selected display pulse waveform to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

3. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

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generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for
each of the plural subframes;

deciding a pulse having a first step-like waveform

in which amplitude decreases between a leading edge and a

trailing edge as a display pulse for a display of a

subframe having a display ratio that is less than a set

value:

deciding a pulse having a second step-like waveform in which amplitude increases between a leading edge and a trailing edge as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or equal to the set value; and

applying the decided display pulse to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

- 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein amplitude of at least one step of the first step-like waveform is equal to amplitude of one step of the second step-like waveform pulse.
- 5. The method according to claim 3, wherein each of the first step-like waveform and the second step-like waveform has two steps, amplitude of one of the steps in the first step-like waveform is equal to amplitude of one of the steps in the second step-like waveform, and amplitude of the other step of the first step-like waveform is equal to amplitude of the other step of the second step-like waveform.

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6. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for
each of the plural subframes;

deciding a pulse having a rectangular waveform as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is less than a set value;

deciding a pulse having a step-like waveform in which amplitude increases between a leading edge and a trailing edge and the maximum amplitude is larger than the

amplitude of the rectangular waveform as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or equal to the set value; and

applying the decided display pulse to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

7. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted

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that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for

each of the plural subframes;

deciding a pulse having a rectangular waveform as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is less than a set value;

deciding a pulse having a step-like waveform in which amplitude decreases between a leading edge and a trailing edge for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or equal to the set value; and

applying the decided display pulse to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

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8. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for

each of the plural subframes;

deciding a pulse having a step-like waveform in which amplitude changes from a first value to a second value that is smaller than the first value between a leading edge and a trailing edge as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is less than a set value;

deciding a pulse having a rectangular waveform whose amplitude is larger than the second value as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or equal to the set value; and applying the decided display pulse to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

9. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

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generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than that in other cells;

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for each of the plural subframes;

deciding a pulse having a step-like waveform in which amplitude changes from a first value to a second value that is smaller than the first value between a leading edge and a trailing edge as a display pulse for a

display of a subframe having a display ratio that is less than a first set value;

deciding a pulse having a rectangular waveform whose amplitude is larger than or equal to the second value as a display pulse for a display of a subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or equal to the first set value and less than a second set value that is larger than the first set value;

deciding a pulse having a second step-like waveform

in which amplitude increases between the leading edge and
the trailing edge as a display pulse for a display of a
subframe having a display ratio that is larger than or
equal to the second set value; and

applying the decided display pulse to all cells so as to display the corresponding subframe.

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10. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising:

generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted
within a screen so that the wall voltage is higher than
that in other cells:

converting a frame into a plurality of subframes;

detecting a display ratio that is a ratio of the

number of cells to be lighted to the number of cells for
each of the plural subframes;

determining the number of discharge times for each subframe so that a luminance ratio between subframes becomes a set ratio and power consumption for one frame becomes less than or equal to a set value for each of plural combinations in waveform selection for selecting

one of plural types of display pulse waveforms for each subframe, in accordance with a relationship among each of predetermined plural types of the display pulse waveforms, a display ratio, luminance in one discharge and power consumption in one discharge;

calculating luminance of one frame for each of combinations of the determined waveform selection and the number of discharge times; and

applying a display pulse having one of plural types of the display pulse waveforms to the cell the corresponding times in a display of each subframe so as to match the combination of the waveform selection having the highest luminance of one frame and the number of discharge times.

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11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the plural subframes are classified into two groups, and the waveform selection is performed for subframes that belong to one of the groups while the display pulse waveform is fixed for subframes that belong to the other group.